

Remarks

Reconsideration and continued prosecution are requested.

Withdrawal of Restriction

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the previously posed restriction requirement has been withdrawn.

Objections to Specification

The abstract was objected to for being more than one page in length and certain grammatical/typographical errors in the disclosure were noted.

The last paragraph on page 1 has been amended to correct an inadvertent grammatical error.

A retyped copy of the abstract is submitted with this paper. The numerical identifiers for the formulas have been moved, some of the indicated bond lines within the formulas have been shortened to consolidate the text, and the description of M^a has been shortened. Applicant respectfully submits that as amended, the abstract, conforms to the requirements of MPEP § 608.01(b).

Applicant respectfully submits that with these amendments, which do not introduce any new matter, the specification complies with applicable rules. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 2, 5, 7, 8, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 2 and 7 (and hence dependent claim 8) were rejected as having improper Markush groups. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of these claims as filed. In each of the claims 2 and 7, the cited passage “group comprising” is not part of a Markush group. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the more traditional phraseology of “selected from the group consisting of” is not necessary.

Claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 1, correcting an inadvertent error. Claim 16 has been amended to delete "any of" as suggested by the Examiner.

In summary, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, have been overcome, and that the rejections should be withdrawn.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-10 were provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 14-17 of copending application no. 10/053,396.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this provisional rejection as this application is now otherwise ready for allowance and the subject copending application is still pending. Any double patenting issues which may exist between the present application and the subject copending application can be adequately resolved during prosecution of the copending application.

Conclusion

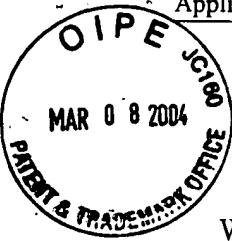
In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested. Allowance of claims 1-22, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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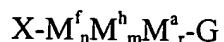
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833



ABSTRACT

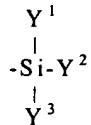
WATER SOLUBLE OR WATER DISPERSIBLE FLUOROCHEMICAL SILANES FOR
RENDERING SUBSTRATES OIL AND WATER RELLENT

A water soluble or water dispersible fluorochemical silane represented by the general formula (I):



wherein X represents the residue of an initiator or hydrogen; M^f represents units derived from one or more fluorinated monomer; M^h represents units derived from one or more non-fluorinated monomer; M^a represents units having a silyl group; G is a monovalent organic group comprising the residue of a chain transfer agent; n represents a value of 1 to 100; m represents a value of 0 to 100; and r represents a value of 0 to 100; and $n+m+r$ is at least 2;

with the proviso that at least one of the following conditions is fulfilled: (a) G contains a silyl group of the formula (III):



wherein Y^1 , Y^2 and Y^3 each independently represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a hydrolyzable group and at least one of Y^1 , Y^2 and Y^3 represents a hydrolyzable water solubilising group; or

(b) r is at least 1 and at least one of Y^4 , Y^5 and Y^6 represents a hydrolyzable water solubilizing group.